

Opioid-related Deaths in Louisiana

Updated November 9, 2017

All deaths of Louisiana residents are reported to the Office of the State Registrar and Vital Records. Parish coroners investigate any deaths due to opioids to determine cause and manner of death. Accurately counting overdose deaths due to a specific is a challenge nationally due to the nature of drug overdoses, the use of multiple drugs at one time, and differences in cause of death determination across jurisdictions.

The following table lists the number of deaths that occurred in each parish for each year from 2012 to 2016. The 2016 Adj† column indicates where the number of opioid-related deaths have been updated according to the death validation exercise. Blank spots in the table represent zero opioid related deaths in that parish for that year. A value of “<5” indicates between 1 and 4 opioid-related deaths in that parish for that year. Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect the confidentiality of the records. Unlisted counties had no deaths in the past 5 years of available data.

Number of Deaths With Opioids* Present by Parish of Occurrence, Louisiana						
Parish	2012	2013**	2014**	2015	2016**	2016 Adj†
LOUISIANA	160	238	217	260	320	531
ACADIA	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
ALLEN	-	-	-	< 5	-	-
ASCENSION	< 5	< 5	7	5	9	9
ASSUMPTION	-	< 5	-	< 5	< 5	< 5
AVOYELLES	-	-	< 5	-	-	-
BIENVILLE	< 5	-	< 5	-	-	-
BOSSIER	< 5	5	< 5	6	< 5	< 5
CADDO	5	< 5	< 5	9	6	6
CALDWELL	-	< 5	< 5	-	< 5	< 5
CONCORDIA	< 5	-	-	-	-	-
DESOTO	-	-	-	-	< 5	< 5
E BATON ROUGE	11	36	31	16	27	69
EVANGELINE	-	-	< 5	< 5	-	-
FRANKLIN	-	-	-	-	< 5	< 5
GRANT	< 5	< 5	< 5	-	< 5	< 5
IBERIA	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
JACKSON	-	-	< 5	< 5	-	-
JEFFERSON	56	59	62	88	91	110
LAFAYETTE	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	10	10
LAFOURCHE	-	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5
LASALLE	< 5	-	-	-	-	-
LINCOLN	-	< 5	< 5	-	-	-
LIVINGSTON	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	13	13
MOREHOUSE	< 5	-	< 5	-	< 5	< 5
NATCHITOCHES	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5

*ICD-10 codes for opioids: Heroin (T40.1); Opioid Analgesic (T40.2 – T40.4)

**2013, 2014, 2016 data are preliminary

†Coroner validated opioid overdose numbers

Number of Deaths With Opioids* Present by Parish of Occurrence, Louisiana (continued)						
Parish	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016 Adj†
ORLEANS	6	42	20	20	35	166
OUACHITA	6	< 5	< 5	7	9	9
PLAQUEMINES	< 5	-	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
POINTE COUPEE	-	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5
RAPIDES	< 5	< 5	< 5	5	13	32
RED RIVER	-	< 5	-	-	-	-
RICHLAND	-	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5
SABINE	-	< 5	-	-	-	-
ST BERNARD	< 5	< 5	-	-	< 5	< 5
ST CHARLES	< 5	< 5	< 5	5	< 5	< 5
ST HELENA	-	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5
ST JOHN	-	-	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
ST LANDRY	< 5	< 5	-	< 5	< 5	< 5
ST MARTIN	< 5	-	-	< 5	-	-
ST MARY	< 5	< 5	-	< 5	-	-
ST TAMMANY	35	50	49	44	53	53
TANGIPAHOA	< 5	-	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
TENSAS	-	-	-	< 5	-	-
TERREBONNE	-	-	< 5	-	-	-
UNION	-	< 5	< 5	< 5	-	-
VERMILION	< 5	-	-	-	< 5	< 5
VERNON	< 5	< 5	< 5	-	-	-
WASHINGTON	7	< 5	< 5	11	14	14
WEBSTER	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	-	-
W BATON ROUGE	< 5	-	-	-	-	-
W FELICIANA	-	-	-	< 5	-	-
WINN	< 5	-	-	< 5	-	-

Source: Louisiana Vital Records Database

*ICD-10 codes for opioids: Heroin (T40.1); Opioid Analgesic (T40.2 – T40.4)

**2013, 2014, 2016 data are preliminary

†Coroner validated opioid overdose numbers

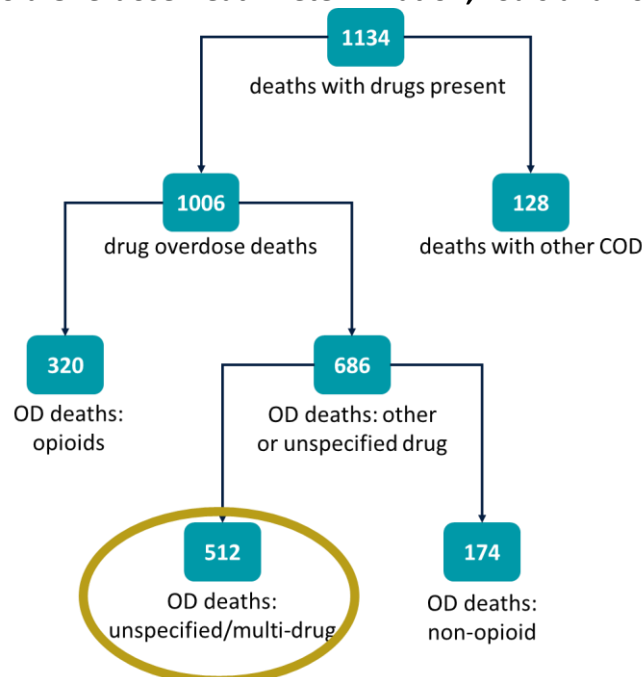
The table on this page lists several types of opioids (including heroin, fentanyl, and methadone) and the number of overdose deaths where each drug type was detected. These do not sum, as several drugs could have been detected in one death.

Number of Deaths for Specific Opioid Drugs Used Louisiana, 2014-2016			
Year	2014**	2015	2016**
Opioid Analgesic*	119	145	191
Natural and Semi-synthetic Opioid Analgesic	90	103	110
Synthetic Opioid Analgesic, excluding Methadone	29	38	81
Fentanyl	22	26	71
Methadone	19	17	18
Heroin	108	127	141

Source: Louisiana Vital Records Database

In Louisiana, there are 1,134 deaths where drugs were present in a toxicology test (and likely more deaths where there was no toxicology done). Of these 1,134 deaths, 1,006 were marked with a drug overdose being the underlying cause of death. 320 of those deaths were specifically marked with the name and T-code of an opioid. These are the numbers currently reported in this factsheet. Of the 686 remaining deaths, 174 were specifically marked with non-opioid drugs (e.g. methamphetamine, cocaine, benzodiazepines, etc.). BHI intends to identify which of the 512 unspecified or multi-drug deaths were opioid-related, but not specifically marked as such. This will be done through validation of death records in partnership with the coroners' offices around the state. The exercise is ongoing and this factsheet will be updated with adjusted numbers at the end of each month until the validation exercise is complete.

Opioid Overdose Death Determination, Louisiana 2016



COD = cause of death

*ICD-10 codes for opioids: Heroin (T40.1); Opioid Analgesic (T40.2 – T40.4)

**2014, 2016 data are preliminary